

Orbit Determination Adaptations for the Cassini Grand Finale

Zahi Tarzi, Julie Bellerose, Duane Roth Rodica Ionasescu, Dylan Boone, Kevin Criddle

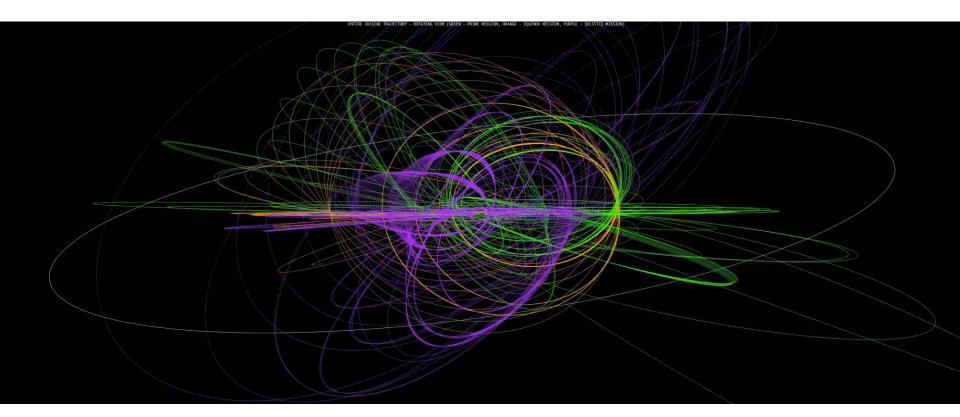


26th International Symposium on Space Flight Dynamics June 4-9, 2017 Matsuyama, Japan

Thirteen Years of Operations at Saturn

- 1997 Launch
- 2004 Arrival at Saturn
- 2017 Grand Finale

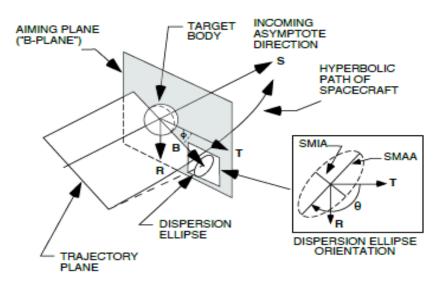
- 292 revolutions around Saturn
- 126 encounters with Titan
- 22 encounters with Enceladus



Prime Mission (2004-2008) - Equinox Mission (2008-2010) - Solstice Mission (2010-2017)

Mapping to the B-Plane

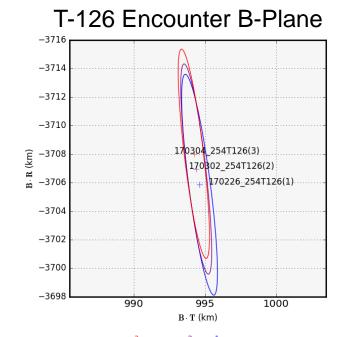
Satellite Encounter



Navigation is divided into "arcs" anchored by initial and final encounters.

Maneuvers targeted B-plane position and time of the next encounter.

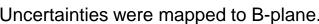
Uncertainties were mapped to B-plane.



0.1

Seconds from Reference Time 22-APR-2017 06:09:16.4241 ET

0.2

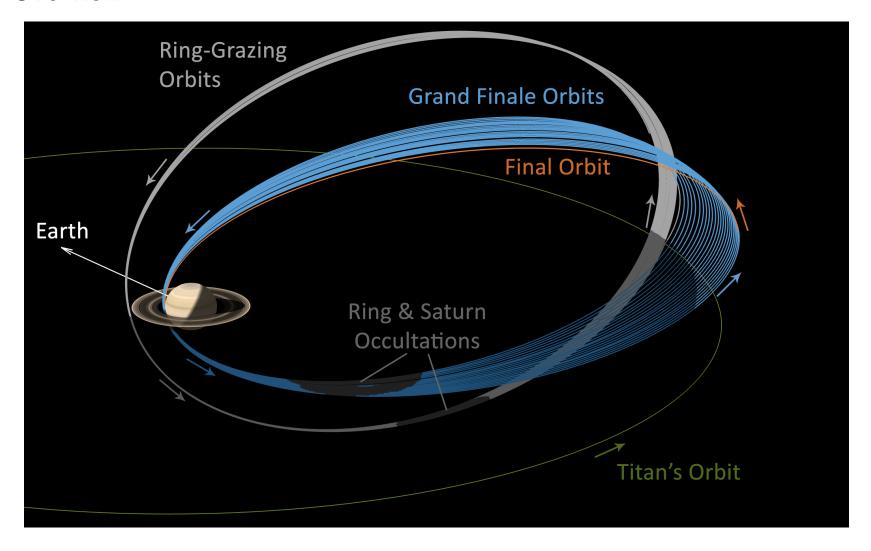


-0.2

-0.1

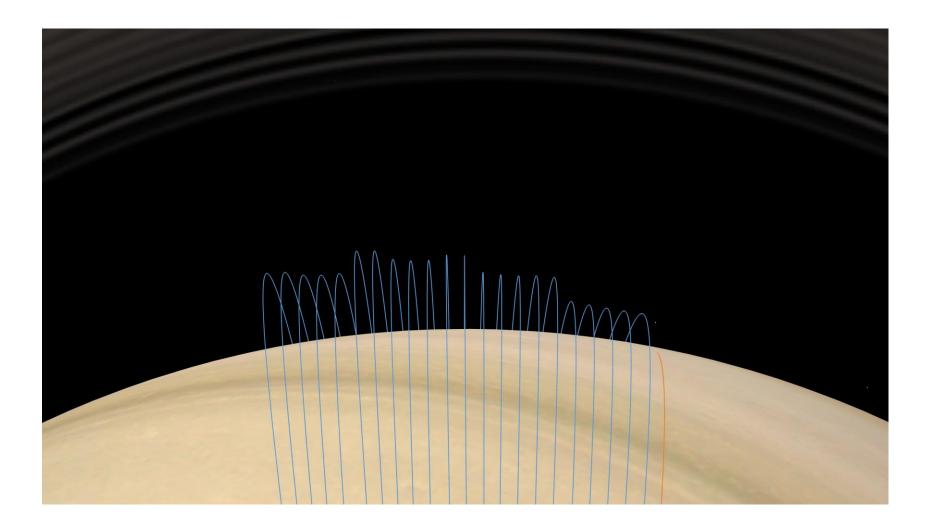
Cassini Grand Finale

Overview



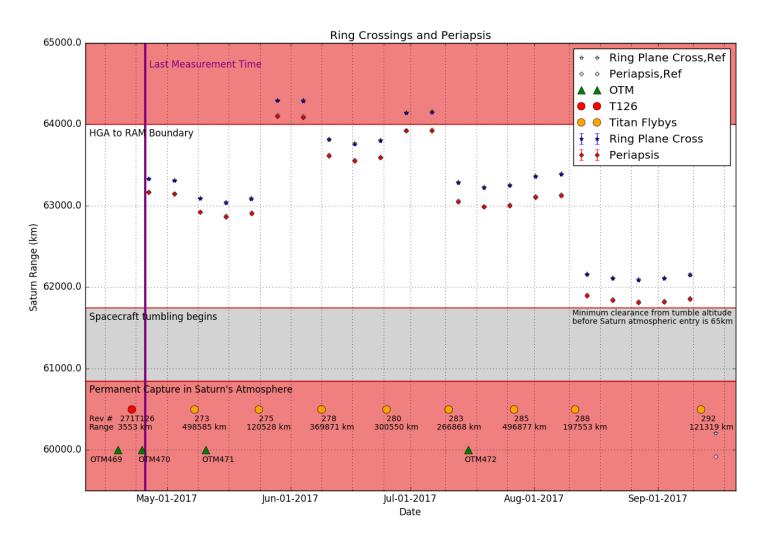
Grand Finale Orbits

Periapsis



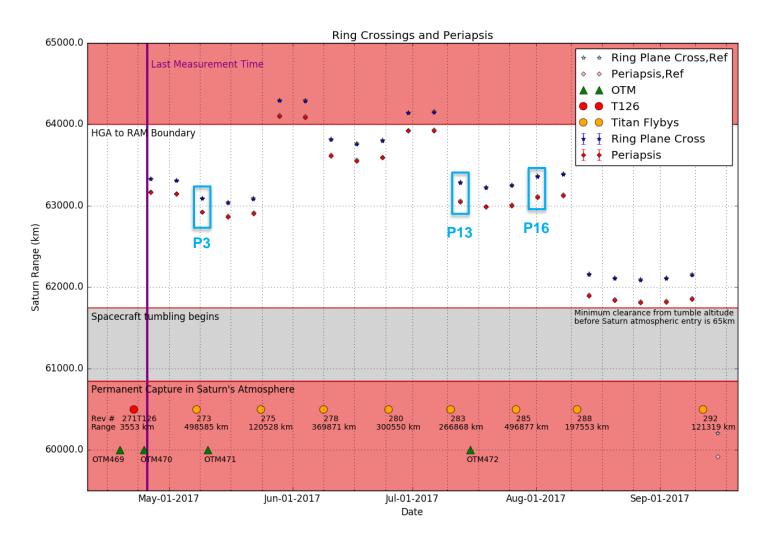
Grand Finale Periapsis and Ring Crossings

Saturn Range Values

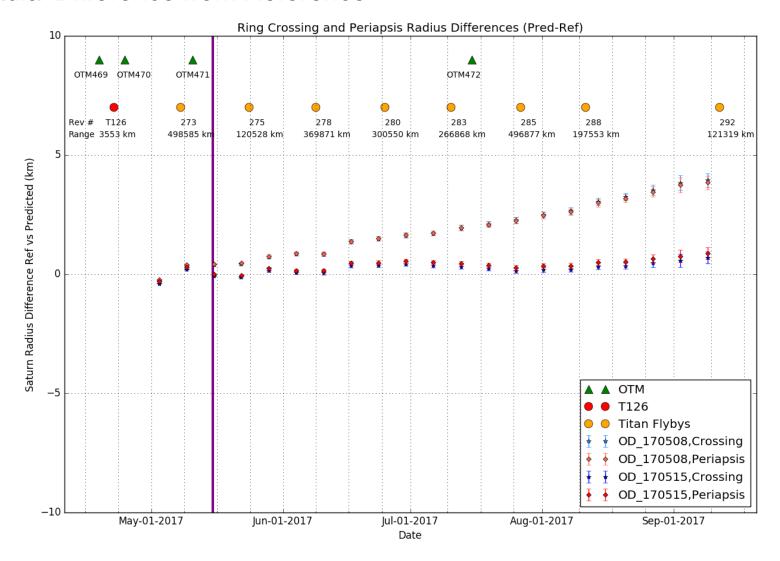


Grand Finale Periapsis and Ring Crossings

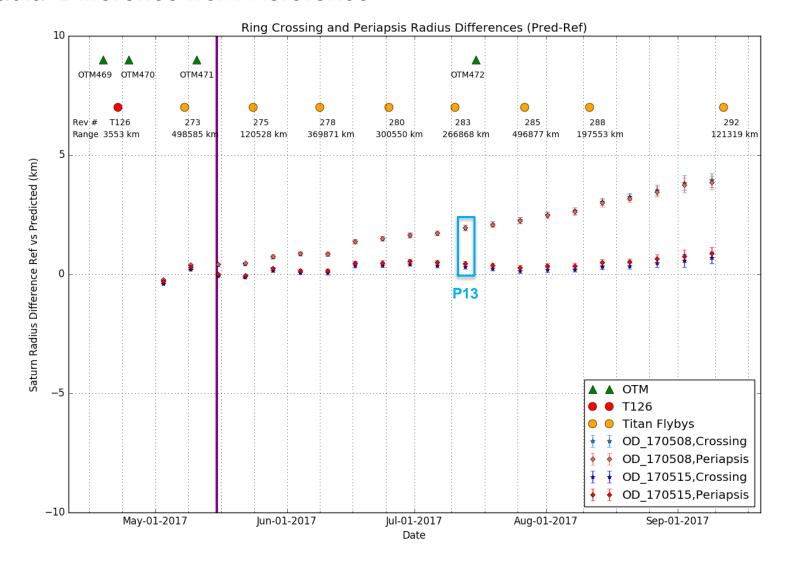
Saturn Range Values



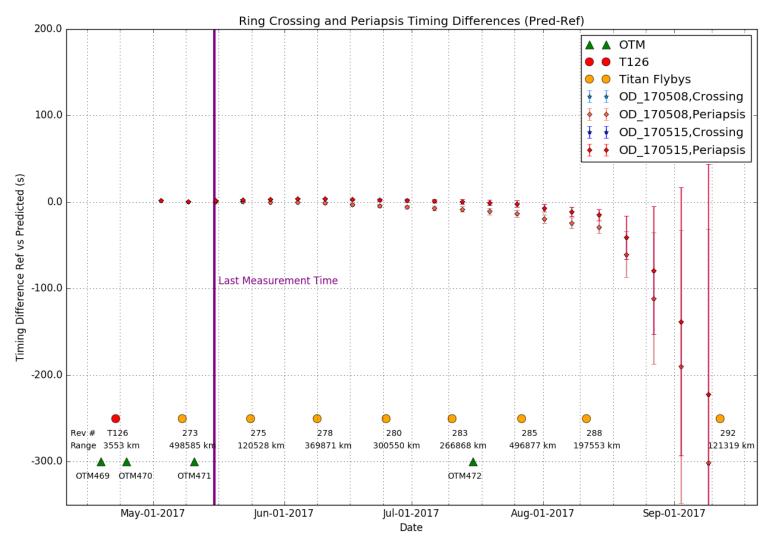
Radial Difference from Reference



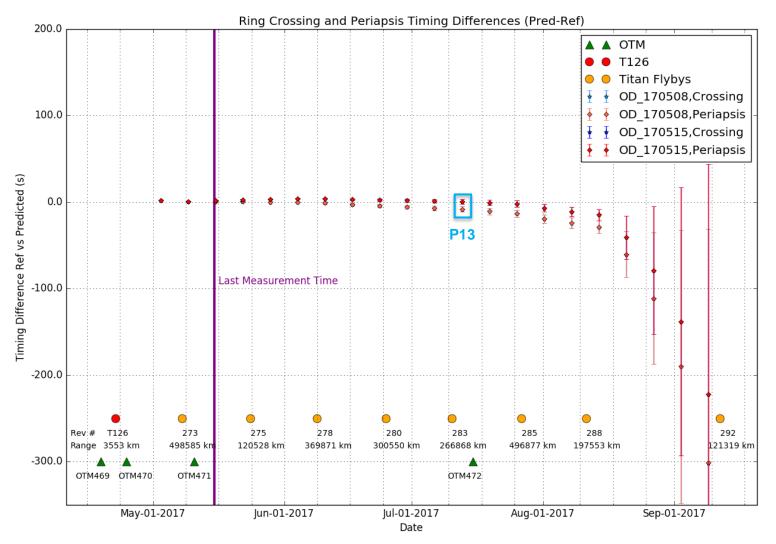
Radial Difference from Reference



Timing Difference from Reference

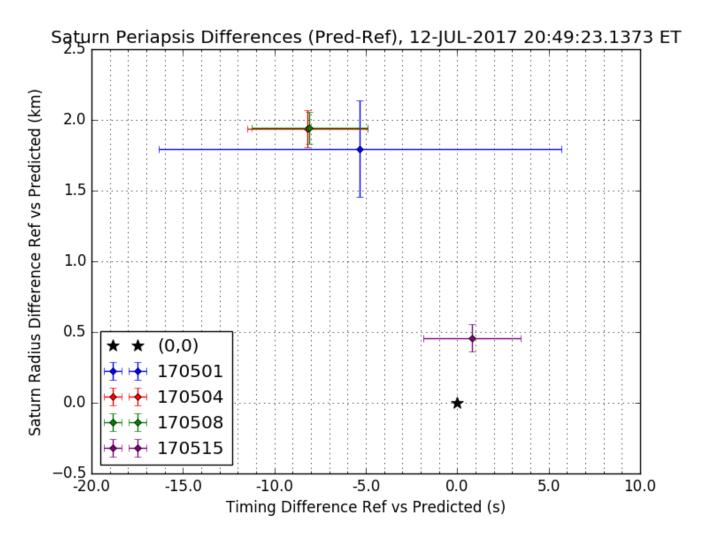


Timing Difference from Reference



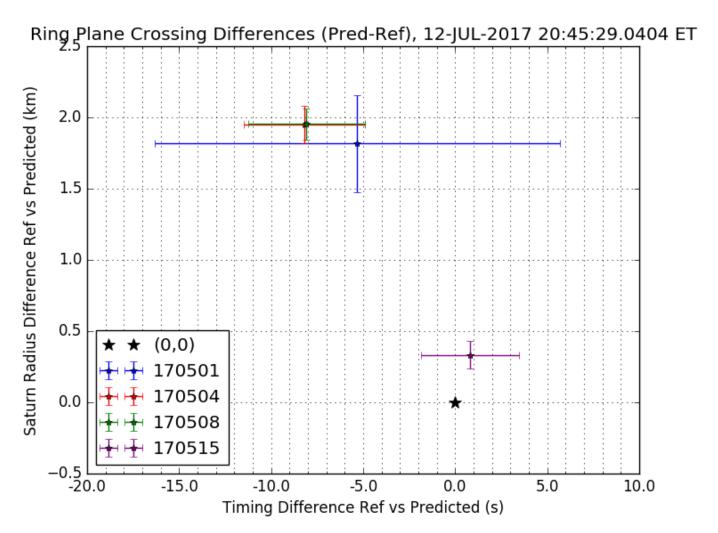
Saturn Periapsis 13

Radial and Timing Difference from Reference



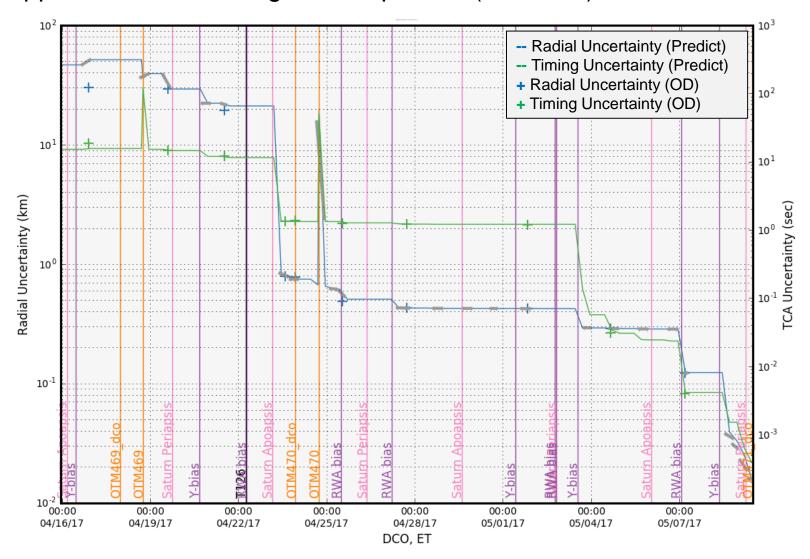
Ring Plane Crossing 13

Radial and Timing Difference from Reference



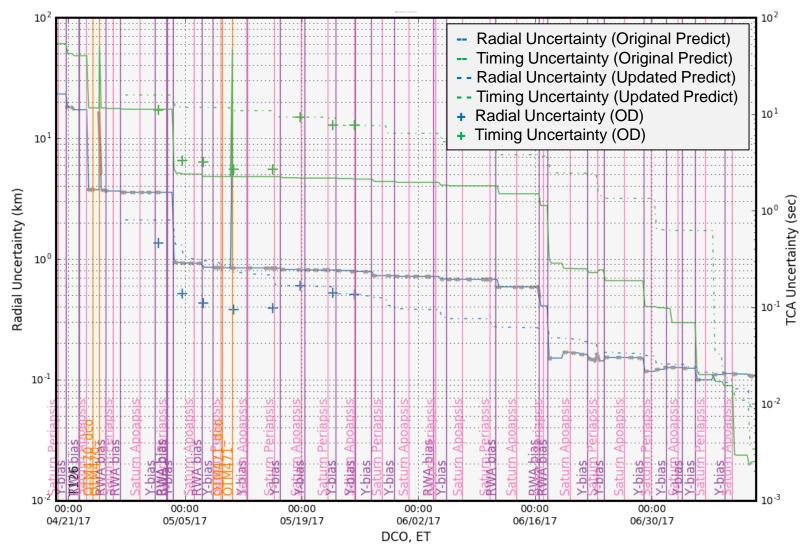
Timing and Radial Uncertainties

Mapped to OTM470 Target: Periapsis 03 (+2 hours)



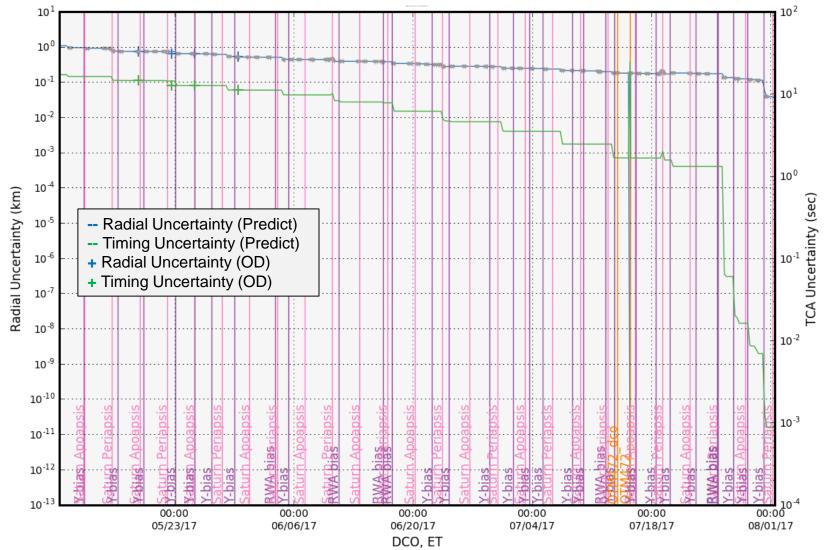
Timing and Radial Uncertainties

Mapped to OTM471 Target: Periapsis 13 (+2 hours)



Timing and Radial Uncertainties

Mapped to OTM472 Target: Periapsis 16 (+2 hours)



Conclusion

September 15, 2017 (~10:45 UTC)

